## **CLAIMS**

1. (Original) An assembly for connecting two adjacent liquid collection basins, the assembly comprising

a first liquid collection basin having a front wall with an opening,

a second liquid collection basin having a front wall with an opening,

a first support frame having an inner edge affixed to the first liquid collection basin front wall around the opening, the first support frame also having an outer edge spaced from the inner edge,

a flume for connecting the first liquid collection basin to the second liquid collection basin,

the flume comprising a generally rectangular structure having a top section, a bottom section and two side sections, an inward flange along one side of the flume and an outward flange along an opposite side of the flume,

a second support frame having an inner edge affixed to the second liquid collection basin front wall around the opening, the second support frame also having an outer edge spaced from the inner edge,

a cover plate adjacent the outer edge of the first support frame and the inward flange of the flume

a plurality of first connection devices securing the cover plate to the outer edge of the first support frame,

a plurality of second connection devices securing the cover plate to the inward flange of the flume,

and a plurality of third connection devices securing the outward edge of the flume to outer edge of the second support frame.

- 2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 further comprising a sealant between the cover plate and the outer edge of the first support frame.
- 3. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 further comprising a sealant between the cover plate and the inward flange of the flume.
- 4. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 further comprising a sealant between the cover plate and the top section of the flume.
- 5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 further comprising a sealant between outer edge of the second support frame and the outward flange of the flume.
- 6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the first support fame includes a top section extending from the outer edge,

the cover plate includes a top section,

and a sealant between the top section of the first support frame and the top section of the cover plate.

7. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the inward flange of the flume includes a bottom section, the cover plate includes a bottom section,

and a sealant between the bottom section of the cover plate and the bottom section of the inward flange of the flume.

- 8. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 further comprising a sealant between the top section of the flume and the second support frame.
- 9. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the first support frame is welded to the front wall of the first liquid collection basin around the opening in the front wall.
- 10. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the second support frame is welded to the front wall of the second liquid collection basin around the opening in the front wall.

- 11. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the first and second connection devices comprise sheet metal lag bolts.
- 12. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the first and second connection devices comprise bolts and tapped holes.
- 13. (Original) The assembly of claim 6 wherein the first support frame top section is perpendicular to the outer edge

and the cover plate comprises a base section and the top section of the cover plate is perpendicular to the base section.

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 7 wherein the inward edge of the flume includes a base section and the bottom section is perpendicular to the base section,

and the cover plate comprises a base section and the bottom section is perpendicular to the base section.

15. (Original) A method of connection two adjacent liquid collection basins having a front wall with an opening,

providing a first collection basin having a front wall with an opening,
providing a second collection basin sharing a front wall with an opening,
affixing a first support frame around the opening in the first collection basin front

wall, the first support frame comprising an inner edge affixed to the front wall of the opening and an outer edge spaced from the inner edge,

affixing a second support frame around the opening in the second collection basin front wall, the second support frame comprising an inner edge affixed to the front wall of the opening and an outer edge spaced from the inner edge,

inserting a flume so that a portion of the flume extends through the opening in the front wall of the second liquid collection basin and into the opening in the front wall of the first collection basin,

the flume comprising a generally rectangular structure having a top section, a bottom section and two side sections, an inward flange along one side of the flume extending onto the opening in the front wall of the first collection basin and an outward flange positioned adjacent the second support frame outer edge,

providing a cover plate and affixing the cover plate to the outer edge of the first support frame, affixing the cover plate to the inward flange of the flume,

affixing the outward flange of the flume to the outer edge of the second support frame.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of providing a sealant between the cover plate and the outer edge of the first support frame,

providing a sealant between the cover plate and the inward flange of the flume, and providing a sealant between the outer edge of the second support frame and the outward flange of the flume.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of providing the first support frame with a top section extending from the outer edge, providing the cover plate with a top section,

and providing a sealant between the top section of the first support frame and the top section of the cover plate.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of providing the inward flange of the flume with a bottom section,

providing the cover plate with a bottom section, and providing a sealant between the bottom section of the inward flange of the flume and the bottom section of the cover plate.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of providing the second support frame with a top section extending from the outer edge,

providing the outward flange of the flume with a top section, and providing a sealant between the top section of the second support frame and the top section of the outward flange of the flume.

20. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of

providing a sealant between the top section of the flume and the first support frame and providing a sealant between the top section of the flume and the second support frame.

- 21. (Withdrawn) An assembly for connecting two adjacent liquid collection basins, the assembly comprising
  - a first liquid collection basin having a front wall with an opening,
  - a second collection basin having a front wall with an opening,
- a first support frame having an inner edge, the first support frame affixed to the first liquid collection basin front wall around the opening,
- a second support frame having an inner edge affixed to the second liquid collection basin front wall around the opening, the second support frame also having an outer edge spaced from the inner edge,
- a flume for connecting the first liquid collection basin to the second liquid collection basin,

the flume comprising a generally rectangular structure having a top section, a bottom section and two side sections, an inward flange along one side of the flume and an outward flange along an opposite side of the flume,

an extension from the inward flange of the flume,

a plurality of first connection devices securing the front wall of the first collection basin to the inward flange of the flume,

and a plurality of second connections devices securing the outward flange of the flume to the outer edge of the second support frame.

- 22. (Withdrawn) The assembly of claim 21 further comprising a sealant between the front wall of the first collection basin and the inward flange of the flume.
- 23. (Withdrawn) The assembly of the claim 21 further comprising

a sealant between the outward flange of the flume and the outer edge of the second support frame.

- 24. (Withdrawn) The assembly of claim 21 wherein the first support frame includes an outer edge extending perpendicular to the inner edge.
- 25. (Withdrawn) The assembly of claim 21

wherein the second support frame includes a top section extending perpendicular to the outer edge of the second support frame

and the outward flange of the flume includes a top section extending perpendicular to the outward flange of the flume.

26. (Withdrawn) The assembly of claim 21

wherein the first support frame is welded to the first liquid collection basin front wall.

## 27. (Withdrawn) The assembly of claim 21

wherein the second support frame is welded to the front wall of the second liquid collection basin.

Respectfully submitted,

November 30, 2005

Edward J. Brosius
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 28,695

AMSTED Industries Incorporated Two Prudential Plaza 180 N. Stetson, Suite 1800 Chicago, IL 60601 (312) 819-8482